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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| 10/718,371 | 11/20/2003 | Daniel Williams Fry JR. | 18124 (AT20958-1035) | 9531 |

7590

10/03/2005

Michael J. Aronoff
Tyco Electronics Corporation
Suite 140
4550 New Linden Hill Road
Wilimington, DE 19808

EXAMINER

PRASAD, CHANDRIKA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2839

DATE MAILED: 10/03/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------|--------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/718,371 | FRY ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Chandrika Prasad | 2839 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 September 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendments

1. The reply filed 9/26/05 consists of amendments to claims 1, 11, 20 and remarks related to rejection of claims. The claims are not allowable.
2. Applicant's request for reconsideration of the finality of the rejection of the last Office action is persuasive and, therefore, the finality of that action is withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Pope et al. (WO 98/02942).

Pope (Figures 1-95) shows a header assembly having an insulative housing 16 with a plurality of walls defining an interior cavity, a plurality of contacts 12 within the cavity and extending through one of the walls to an exterior of the housing for surface mounting on a circuit board, a pair of alignment ribs (elongated elevated portion) extending on an exterior surface, solder tails (mounting portions) 21, 23 of the contacts abut the alignment rib and positioned between the alignment rib and a mounting surface of a circuit board. The housing has longitudinal side walls and lateral side walls. The ribs extend parallel to one of the longitudinal and lateral side walls. The contacts extend in a plurality of rows from a bottom wall of the housing and are preloaded against the

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ribs. Some of the contacts have a first length and some of the contacts have a second length wherein the first length is greater than the second length. The contacts are staggered. Pope further teaches the use of solder clips and reflow soldering for surface mounting the contacts. The contacts have rounded ends and the ribs have crowned surfaces. The solder tails of the contacts are flexed about the alignment ribs. The method of assembling the contacts in the housing is inherent.

5. Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Pope et al. (6,135,781).

Pope (Figures 1-95) shows a header assembly having an insulative housing 16 with a plurality of walls defining an interior cavity, a plurality of contacts 12 within the cavity and extending through one of the walls to an exterior of the housing for surface mounting on a circuit board, a pair of alignment ribs (elongated elevated portion) extending on an exterior surface, solder tails (mounting portions) 21, 23 of the contacts abut the alignment rib and positioned between the alignment rib and a mounting surface of a circuit board. The housing has longitudinal side walls and lateral side walls. The ribs extend parallel to one of the longitudinal and lateral side walls. The contacts extend in a plurality of rows from a bottom wall of the housing and are preloaded against the ribs. Some of the contacts have a first length and some of the contacts have a second length wherein the first length is greater than the second length. The contacts are staggered. Pope further teaches the use of solder clips and reflow soldering for surface mounting the contacts. The contacts have rounded ends and the ribs have crowned

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surfaces. The solder tails of the contacts are flexed about the alignment ribs. The method of assembling the contacts in the housing is inherent.

Conclusion

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments filed 9/26/05 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The contacts are formed against alignment ribs which provide an internal biasing force as shown in Figures 89-90.

Contact Information


8. Any correspondence to this action may be mailed to:

**Commissioner for Patents
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chandrika Prasad whose telephone number is (571) 272-2099.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor can be reached at (571) 272-2800 ext 39. The fax number is (703) 872-9306.



Chandrika Prasad
Primary examiner
September 30, 2005